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COAL MINING INDUSTRY RECOVERS;  
NORTH CHINA INDUSTRY IMPROVES

PO-SHAN INCREASES COAL PRODUCTION -- Shanghai Chieh-fang Jih-pao, 5 Aug 49

At present, the six privately owned mines at Po-shan -- Hua-tung, Chen-yeh, Ta-ch'eng, Jui-ch'eng, Tung-fang, and Heng-t'ung -- together produce only 750-800 tons daily, or 2,200-2,300 tons /sic/ monthly, which is considerably below the new demands and goals of industry. In addition to coal privately marketed, the mines have already fulfilled the goal of the June 1949 government purchase order of 5,000 tons. The July 1949 increment of 10,000 tons is practically completed, but production goals must be raised still higher if they are to satisfy the new demands.

Some mines, such as Hua-tung and Chen-yeh, had been operating at a loss for the past year, because of incomplete understanding of the government policy.

A year ago, the government explained its policy to them, and in times of distress the Bureau of Mines contributed relief funds. After liberation, the Tzu-po Special Committee summoned the mine officials three times to show them clearly the direction of their development, and banks also suggested ways by which loans could be made for long-term construction projects. The Bureau of Mines loaned capital for the July 1949 coal increment of 10,000 tons.

The mines are now engaged in increasing their constructions, planning to set up centralized mechanisms for transport and sales, and settling the matter of bank loans.

HENG-FENG COAL PITS OPERATING AGAIN -- Shanghai Hsin-wen Jih-pao, 5 Aug 49

Fifteen coal pits in two districts of Heng-feng Hsien are operating again with strong support from the people's government. Following the

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liberation of these districts, the Bureau of Taxation, on 15 June 1949, called coal-pit representatives to meet with them. At the meeting the bureau officials first explained the people's government policy of expanding industry and commerce and their attitude toward reopening these coal pits.

Again, several days ago, they called a meeting of the coal-pit representatives, workers, and loaders, especially to discuss the problem of reopening the pits. The representatives and the miners agreed in their statement that the removal of existing obstacles to their livelihood would guarantee immediate recovery in the industry. On the basis of the group opinion, the people's government decided to distribute 30,000-50,000 yuan in relief funds to each miner's family. Thanks to this strong support from the people's government, nine coal pits, including Tung-t'an, Kao-shan-t'ang, K'ang-liu-yuan, and Shih-t'ang-wu, are again in operation and there is constant movement of coal cars at the stations.

#### I-LO MINE SINKS NEW VERTICAL SHAFT -- Shanghai Hsin-wen Jih-pao, 5 Aug 49

The new vertical shaft at the I-lo Coal Mine, with which considerable pains have been taken in construction for the past 6 months, has been sunk to a depth of approximately 248.75 feet. Construction has been facilitated by a change from "yellow" explosives to electrically detonated explosive charges which are easier to handle under water and effect a great saving in man-hours. It is expected that the new vertical-shaft construction will be completed before long.

#### HSING-YA STEEL INDUSTRY REOPENS -- Shanghai Chieh-fang Jih-pao, 6 Aug 49

The privately operated Hsing-ya Steel Plant in Shanghai resumed operations, on 5 August 1949, with support from the Department of Heavy Industries of the Military Control Commission, after the granting of permission to go to work on purchase contracts from the South Manchurian Railway for railroad spikes. Over 100 workmen reported to the plant on 5 August 1949.

At the privately owned Ta-lung Machine Manufacturing Plant, at West Kuang-fu Road, the entire plant (330 workers) has been undergoing a one-month training course in Mao's principles since the organization of a workmen's union planning committee a month ago.

#### IRON AND STEEL COMPANY RECOVERS FROM TYPHOON -- Shanghai Ta Kung Pao, 5 Aug 49

The Shanghai Iron and Steel Company has recovered from the typhoon damage of several weeks ago, and three plants are already in total production.

Plant No 1: Daily capacity, 22 tons of steel.

Plant No 2: Daily average of 20 tons of spikes and rail plates; soon will convert to production of rail plates, estimating 30 tons daily.

Plant No 3: Maintaining production level of 9 tons per furnace.

#### TIENTSIN CHEMICAL COMPANIES MERGE -- Shanghai Ta Kung Pao, 5 Aug 49

The North China Chemical Industry Department of Preparation was set up at Tientsin on 1 August 1949. This department is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Public Enterprises of the North China People's government. It represents a merger of the Tientsin Chemical Industries Corporation, the

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North China branch of the China Salt Industries Corporation, the Wei-hsin Chemical Plant, and the former Shih-ching-shan Chemical plant. It controls the Ta-ku plant, the Han-ku No 1 plant, the Han-ku No 2 plant, the Tientsin plant, and the Wei-hsin plant. The Department of Preparation plans to develop both heavy and basic chemical industries on the basis of existing chemical plants and will concentrate on setting up a complete system of chemical industries in North China, pointing up the necessity for reasonable and equitable work distribution in all areas.

North China has always been the heart of the nation's chemical industry. Plants now under the jurisdiction of this department are producing mostly sodium sulfide. Tientsin produces 70 percent of the nation's sodium sulfide.

SEVERAL PLANTS SHOW RECOVERY -- Shanghai Hsin-wen Jih-pao, 5 Aug 49

The publicly operated Tan-yang textiles plant was originally managed by Shu Yun-chang, general agent of the China Textiles Industries Corporation under the KMT. In January 1949, following the Huai-hai campaign, Shu was ordered to send the Tan-yang textile plant machinery to Shanghai for re-shipment to Taiwan; however, this was never accomplished because of the staunch resistance on the part of the workers. After the liberation, the plant was not destroyed by the bandits, thanks to the heroism of workmen returning to the plant. After the people's government took over, positive aid was furnished and total operation restored. Daily production in cotton thread is 10-or more balls.

The Yun-yang flour mill was maliciously destroyed by the KMT a month before liberation and had to cease production. Following the liberation, this mill reorganized and began operations with supporting loans from the people's government. The mill has five steel rollers and 60 motors. Daily production is about 300 sacks. Plans are being made to add new machinery and increase daily production to 500 sacks.

Before the liberation, the Min-sheng Flour Mill was forced by the KMT to send vital machine parts to Shanghai and steel rollers, etc., to Wu-hsi; but the workmen fought for their rights and the equipment was shipped back. After the people's government took over, they loaned the mill 600,000 yuan for the purchase of additional machinery. At first, daily production was about 100 sacks; at present, the daily flour production is more than 200 sacks.

SALT PRODUCTION INCREASES 3 PERCENT -- Shanghai Chieh-fang Jih-pao, 6 Aug 49

The spring evaporation at the privately and government-operated salt fields at Ta-ku, T'ang-ku, Teng-ku, and Hsin-ho, under the jurisdiction of the T'ang-ta (T'ang-ku and Ta-ku) Salt Fields Control Department, has come to an end. The total salt production of more than 483,330 tons exceeded the 1948 total production by about 3 percent. The 185 government-operated salt pans within this group produced 288,666 tons, surpassing the 1948 total yield by 11 percent, while the 97 privately operated salt pans produced 194,666 tons, or 92 percent of the 1948 total yield.

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